

P.A 1/24/68

# Defense Responsibilities of U.S. Are World-Wide, Rusk Says

PORPSMOUTH, Va. Jan. 23 (UPI) — Secretary of State Dean Rusk said today that United States defense responsibilities are global.

"In this kind of world," he declared, "the United States cannot find security by de-

fending North America or the Western Hemisphere, or one ocean or Western Europe. We have to be concerned with the whole world. We can be secure only to the extent that this planet is safe for freedom."

Rusk spoke at the commis-

sioning of the Nation's newest aircraft carrier, the America.

He said there has been a growing tendency in recent years among some leaders in the Free World to speak and act as if the danger of a major war had receded.

"This tendency perhaps has been aggravated by the dispute between Moscow and Peking and the movement toward more autonomy in Eastern Europe," he said.

"To the extent that the danger of major outright aggression has receded, it is because of the strength of the Free World, above all the formidable military power of the United States. To relax would be to invite aggression." He added:

"We must maintain our vigilance and our efforts until the ideas and institutions of freedom are secure and the coercive systems of the Communist world revolution are turned back by the community of nations. We must try to win this ultimate victory without the terrible devastation of a great war if possible.

"It is essential that we remain prepared to meet any attack or threat against ourselves or our allies, with either nuclear or conventional weapons."

Rusk went on to say that "it is just as essential that guerrilla aggression be defeated in Asia, Africa and Latin America today as it was that it be defeated in Greece in 1947."